



Connecticut Fire Marshals Association

Fire Marshal Kevin J Kowalski – Legislative rep.
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CT General Assembly

Committee on Public Safety and Security

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Chairs Representative Dargan and Senator Larson and members of the Public safety and Security Committee. I am Kevin Kowalski , Fire Marshal of Simsbury and Legislative Committee Chair for the CT Fire Marshals Aassociation. The CFMA represents over 300 members.

I am here today to testify on HB No. 6972 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING FIRE SAFETY. This bill would appoint two additional Fire Marshals to the Codes and Standards Committee in addition to the 2 now serving. The proposed Bill would also require one of the three professional engineers to be a practicing fire protection engineer.

The CFMA members are pleased to see that your Committee has taken the time to look at this matter to bring more representatives that deal specifically with life safety considerations to this Committee.

The current makeup of the Codes and Standards Committee is heavily weighed to the commercial/ construction side of code use, adoption and interpretation process. The building construction side has 14 members on the Committee based on 2 architects, 3 engineers, 3 builders, 2 building officials, 1energy, 1 electrical, 1 plumbing, and 1 HVAC representatives. Time and time again the vote is all against the 2 Fire Marshals. The Fire Marshals again have only 2 members. For example: When The Fire Marshals attempted to move to new National consensus Fire Safety code the committee as a whole votes against these initiatives. These new codes we believe would be easier to follow, less confusing for the design professionals.



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We need to have some more representation on this committee,

Thank you for your Assistance,

Kevin Kowaleski,
CT Fire Marshals Association